

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

8. (Currently Amended) A method in a multi-tone transmission system wherein a usable frequency range of a channel is separated into a plurality of frequency bands, an analog signal in each sub-band being filtered out by a plurality of band pass filters at a receiving side, the method comprising the steps of:

converting separately the analog signal in each sub-band into a digital signal in a plurality of analog-digital converters, each analog-digital converter being associated to one sub band;

processing separately each digital signal in each sub band in a signal processing unit;

detecting a presence of a signal in the associated sub-band in said signal processing unit; and

activating and deactivating each analog-digital converter depending on the presence of a signal in the associated sub band (Canceled)

9 -10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A device in a multi-tone transmission system, comprising:

a plurality of bandpass filters operatively connected to an analog line at a receiving side, so as to separate a usable frequency range of a channel into a plurality of frequency bands;

a plurality of Analog-Digital converters for converting an analog signal into a digital signal, each of the plurality of bandpass filters being operatively connected to an Analog-Digital converter, each of the plurality of Analog-Digital converters being associated to one sub band;

a signal processing unit for detecting a presence of a signal in the associated sub band; and

a control unit operatively connected to each of said Analog-Digital converters for activating and deactivating each converter depending on ~~[[a]]~~ the presence of a signal in the associated sub band.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, further comprising a signal processing entity provided for each digital signal.

13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 11, further comprising the ~~[[a]]~~ single signal processing unit provided for said digital signals.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 12, wherein said signal processing unit is operatively connected to manually operated means for receiving control information for said Analog-Digital converters.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 13, wherein said signal processing unit is operatively connected to manually operated means for receiving control information for said Analog-Digital converters.